



# HIMATIA- POLEOS.

**T H E T R I V M P H S O F**  
*olde Draperie, or the rich Cloathing*  
**of E N G L A N D.**

Performed in affection, and at the  
charges of the right Worthie and first honou-  
red Companie of *Drapers*: at the enstalmment  
of *St. Thomas Hayes* Knight, in the high office  
of Lord Maior of *London*, on Saturday,  
being the 29. day of October.  
1614.

Deuised and written by *A. M.*  
Citizen and Draper of *London.* *K*



LONDON,  
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ATTACHED

THE

REPORT

OF

THE

COMMISSION

ON





# Himatia-Poleos.

Or,

## The Olde Draperie and Clothing of ENGLAND.



**N**every well-gouver-  
ned Kingdome and Com-  
mon-wealth, the chiefeſt  
Cittie and Citizens therein,  
haue euermore held the  
prime place and priorities;  
as well in matter of honor,  
as due right of Antiquity. And as the *Lacedemo-  
nians*, the first instructors of the olde *Romans*,  
and so (from them) we, and all other Nations  
deriued our forme of rule: As they (I say) made  
a distinguishing of their most memorable So-  
cieties, from other of much lesse note and me-  
rite: Euen so this famous Cittie of *London*,  
whose continuall teeming wombe (from time  
to time) brought forth many seuerall Myſteries



or Professions, both referred them all in eminence of place, to twentie only. Amongst which were the gradations of honour and dignitie, the first original began in the first Compaignie of all other in this Citie the ancient fellowship or Societie of Drapers.

\* He lived and wrote in the time of king Stephen.

To approue the Societie of Drapers for the first, when (as yet) there was none other: it is auouched by \* *William Fitz Stephen, John Bale, Roger Hoveden*, and others, that the Wooll-winder, (who was the olde Draper or Clothier, as borrowed from the word *Drappier*) did carde and spinne his wooll, then weaue it into cloth, full, rowe, sheare, dresse, and dye it, and sell it afterwards in his shop, performing all these seuerall offices thereof, by himselfe and seruants: which (since then) hath branched it selfe into diuers other Companies, and of one entire Trade or Mysterie is become many.

\* In the olde Saxon tongue from whence it was deriued, it signifieth *Dominus* or Lord.

Out of this list or band of Drapers, issued Sir *Henric Fitz Alwine* knight, descended from that *Alwine*, Vncle to king *Edgar*, who made him Alderman of all England; when as (till then) the name of Alderman, or Eldermen, was neuer known. This *Henric Fitz Alwine* had the first honour to be stiled \* *Maire*, or Major of *London*, by favour of King *Richard* the first, surnamed *Coeur de Lyon*, and was himselfe (as is credibly avouched) a Brother of the same Societie, in honour of the man by him so aduanced, before his journey to the *Holie Land*. For, vntill his time, the



the troublesome comburments of the Citie be-  
ing not fully settled: the government thereof  
remained first in Portgrewes, next in ourriall  
Provosts, thirde in Bayliffes, and lastly in Lord  
Mayors, as in meete place is more at large de-  
clared in this booke.

Here before I passe any further, but may ap-  
peare as a blemish on mine own browe, because  
in my Booke in the worthe Company of Gold-  
smiths, I did set downe *Henric Fitz-Alwine Fitz-  
Leoflane* to bee a Goldsmith, and the first Lord  
Mayor of London, alleadging my authoritie for  
the same in the margent of the same booke, out  
of *John Stow*, which now I may seeme to denie,  
and affirme the same man to be a Draper, to the  
disgrace of the forenamed Company, and mine  
owne deepe discredit. What then I did, was by  
warrant of my fore-alleged Author, who find-  
ing *Henric Fitz-Alwine Fitz-Leoflane* to be  
Master or Guardian of the kings Mint, did ther-  
fore set him downe to be a Goldsmith, which  
was no reason for me to doe the like, being there-  
to secured by him, and knowing (as then) no on-  
ther proper to the contrary. But having per-  
used more assured authority in the Drapers Hall,  
that one, not named *Henric Fitz-Alwine Fitz-  
Leoflane* but *Henric Fitz-Alwine* brother of the  
olde Drapers, was Lord Mayor of London, foure  
and twentie years and a halfe (by yearly electi-  
on) and longer had been if he had longer lived,  
who had also given his dwelling house by London

\* The ancient  
Chronicle of  
the Citie.

Stone,



none, to his owne free brethren of the Drapers,  
 with an annuity yearly to be paid to the king,  
 out of such land as is held of his by them; and  
 that hee lieth in the parish Church of S. *Marye*  
*Abchurch* buried, the Parish wherein hee liued  
 and died; whereas *John Stowe* affirmeth him to  
 bee buried in the Priorie of the holy Trinitie,  
 called Christs Church, on the right hand with-  
 in Aldegate, which is now called the Dukes  
 place. Nay more, Maister *Clarendon* *Cambden*,  
 with the aduise of diuers other good Antiqua-  
 ries beside, hath (vnder his hand and Seale of  
 Office) confirmed him to be none other then a  
 Draper. What more free confession can any  
 man make, then of his blinde misleading by a  
 blinder guide? In whose behalf I dare yet boldly  
 maintaine, that no such error escaped from him  
 wilfully or willingly, his care and endeavour  
 was so great, but mis-information, or incapaci-  
 tie of reading, may (as it hath done to many)  
 wrong better men then any that are concerned  
 in this case, yet without any preiudice or disho-  
 nour to him. *What offence then may the Company of*  
*Mercers* take, who make challenge likewise to  
 the very same man, by mistaking *Mr. Fitz* *Mil-*  
*ner* (a Mercer indeed) for *Mr. Fitz* *Mil-*  
*ner* the old Draper? Or that of the *Assessors*,  
 who become their worthy *Wardens*, the first  
 Knighted Mercer in the field, to be the same man  
 also, and that no man before him was Master of  
 London?



London? I answered for my selfe, and ap-  
 peale to an especial Gentleman in the most  
 renowned company of Gentlemen (who  
 took no mean paines to be reformed in this  
 case) that no certain assurance could be had  
 therein, but that it remained doubtful between  
 both the Societies. And therefore we perused  
 god old *Warrington*, not *Warrington* as the booke  
 yet may be seen to cut off all such contentious  
 questions. Seeing then that reverend anti-  
 quitie, and head of honour, and due right of  
 mine, bestowed so high a dignity upon the  
 Deapers: I might well be justly condemned, if  
 I should seeke after any other argument of cre-  
 dit for them (which to maintain business some  
 tellerlike require) in their own and their  
 mine, so long time sleeping in oblivion, yet now  
 revived, to their endless honour. .cc. .cc. M.  
 The walles of my City, were termed by the  
*Germans*, according as we use to say in that  
 course, *Muralla Rotunda*. The Cloathing or gar-  
 ments of the Citie. Denoting thereby, that  
 as garments and cloathing doe light the body,  
 defending it coming off from the extremities  
 of colde and heate. so walles, being the be-  
 liegements of any Citie, do preserve it from dan-  
 gerous and cruell handes. Here on we say the founda-  
 tion of our civill right, and honour of the  
 the rich Cloathing of *London*, which long before  
 the knowledge of summe rich habites, clothed  
 both Princes and people alike, to the no mean



knowne of the Kingdomes, and admiration of  
 forraigne nations, to whom our Draperie (a  
 bounding in her owne plenty) by means of na-  
 uigation and commerce, afforded the rich li-  
 berie of this land, better embraced by them, and  
 much more highly esteemed, then all other tra-  
 fficke whatsoever. As well appeared by that  
 famous Knight and trayler, Sir Francis Drake,  
 who having rounde the whole world, and noa-  
 ted the riches & best endowments of every na-  
 tion, founde none to equal the Draperie and  
 cloathing of England. In regard whereof, he  
 chose to be a louing Brother of the Drapers So-  
 cietie before all other Companies of the Citie.  
 Wherefore our first land cruize is a Shippe, ve-  
 ry artificially and workmanly framed, called  
 the *Barke-Hunt*, fitted with Captaine, Maister,  
 Mate. &c. and supposedly laden with woollen  
 sharte, to be exchanged for other Com-  
 modities, and thought meet to  
 shew the way to the residue of the shewes,  
 which are directed to follow in this manner.  
 A beautifull Chariot, drawen by two golden  
 pollards, and with golden Wygolues Sh-  
 miners, after the manner of the triumphall  
 Chariots of the Romaine Emperours, is graced  
 with the supposed shape of King Richard the  
 first, with the severall figures of so many Citizens  
 in England about him, as convenient to place  
 and carriage graunted them the same. These Cit-  
 izens are disiphered by their Escutcheons of  
 Armes,



Armes, and that their best advantage is obserued  
 fied by making of woollen Cloathes, for the  
 continuall maintenance of England's Draperie.  
 But London fitting herself unto this office, as  
 chiefe Mother and mart of them all, shee  
 nourisheth the head of this craft in Chamber, with a  
 triple imperiall Crowne of golde, under band  
 led or branched with Cloudes, and beames of  
 the Sunne, being the Armes of the City of Lon-  
 don, and declaring his place and honour bestow-  
 wed on her, by his advancement of Sir Thomas  
 Fitzwater to the Mayordome, in whom began  
 the old Draperie.  
 After this manner, followed a Pageant of  
 goodly Monument, figuring the whole estate of  
 London's old Draperie. In the toppe was  
 most eminent, being a woman, or Queen  
 thing, as Mother, Lady and commander of  
 all the rest, who by their distinct emblemes and  
 properties, (apted for the easiest apprehension)  
 doe expresse their duties and attendance on so  
 glorious a person, in their severall places and  
 offices to them belonging; As in Carding,  
 Spinning, Weaving, Rowing, Pulling, Shear-  
 ing, Dressing, Dying, Tentering and perfor-  
 ming all other services to woollen Cloathes,  
 which at first was done onely by the Draper, or  
 Clothier. Peace, Plentie, Liberalitie, Councell  
 and Discreet Zeale, doe supporte the flourishing  
 condition of *Himatiaes* Common-wealth, and  
 strive to prevent all occasions which may



some for their hurtfull thereto. But as yet is  
 appointed the first in service, serueth both for  
 the water and land. Till the year 1453, the  
 Maiors of London used to ride on horseback to  
 Westminster, at such time as each one went to  
 take his oath. But *S. Iohn Norton* Draper, being  
 then Maior, at his owne cost and charge, and  
 for the relief of poore Watermen, who were  
 much distressed in those daies, made a very  
 goodly Barge for himselfe and his Brethren, so  
 he rowed therein by water to Westminster, and so  
 to continue for a yearly custome. It was a cost-  
 ly Barge, and the Oars are said to be covered  
 with silver. In memorie whereof, and the ho-  
 nour benefite thereby, the Water-  
 men made a pleasant song called *Row thy Oute  
 Westminster*. This honour beginning likewise  
 in the Pryer, and falling out so fitly to helpe  
 our intention, in a goodly faire Barge, made  
 more for the purpose, attendeth the supposed  
 shadow of *Sir Iohn Norton*, with the seauen li-  
 berall Sciences (all attired like graceful Ladies)  
 sitting about him, vntill such time as the Lord  
 Maior cometh to take water, and then he sa-  
 luteh him with this speech.

*S. Iohn*



## S. Iohn Normans speech

on the Water.

**W**elcome to the water, worthy Brother Draper. Imagine me to be the true resemblance of olde S. Iohn Norman, sometime Lord Maior of this famous Cittie, and the first that deuised this water honour, making my Barge at mine owne proper cost, and rowed with siluer Oares to Westminster, when (as you now) I then went to take mine oath. In regard whereof, I was the first Maior, that was presented to the Barons, of the Exchequer. The imaginarie shapes of the seauen liberal Sciences, each one distinguished by their true character, are placed as my companions in my Barge: in memorie of the loue I euer bare to learning, and no meane bounties by me extended for the maintenance thereof. I ioy, that inuention would make vse of my remembrance in this manner, to doe any seruice so so desertfull a Brother, and to the Companie of Drapers which I dearly affected. On then my hearts, and as in those elder dayes you declared your loue to olde Iohn Norman: so expresse somewhat nowe to delight my honourd Brother, singing cheerfully, *Rowe thy Boate Norman.*

Which beeing no sooner ended, but diuers sweet singing youths, belonging to the maister that instructeth the yong Quiristers of *Pauls*, be-



ing all attired in faire wrought wastcoates, and caps belonging also to them, each hauing a silver Oare in his hand, do sing a most sweet dittie of *Rowe thy Boate Norman*, and so seeme to rowe vp along to *Westminster*, in honour of the Lord *Munro's* attendance.

For the seuerall peales of Ordinance, which make better report in the aire, then they can be expressed by pen: For the Drums, Fife, Trumpets, and other musical Instruments, wherof each Company maketh their choice, to grace this honorable seruice out and home againe, in the true affection of louing Citizens, not misseing their chief Magistrate to want any part of their kinde respect and furtheraunce: they can much better speake for themselves then I, and serue but as a breaching time to mee, vntill my Lords returne and landing. When all our desires being installed in order, according as we haue formerly related, except a goodly Ranne or Golden Peece, with a Shepheard sitting by it, as occasion serueth, declareth his intention in this ensuing speech.

*The Shepheard.*

**W**hy gaze yee so vpon me? am I not a man, flesh, bloud, and bone, as you are? Or in these filken lacin Townes, are poore plaine meaning Shepheards woondred at, like Comets or blazing Starres? Or is it this  
goodly



goodly beast by me, that fills your eyes with admiration? It is be so, let me then resolve ye, that it is an article of dutie which we Shepheards of *Cotswold* owe to the old *Drapers of London*, for keeping their flocks on the *Cotswold* hills, that whē any worthy Brother of their Society comes to be L. Maior of this City, the very fairest Ram in all their flocks is sent vnto them as a solemne offering, as being the Crest of their Companies Armes, and the chiefe maintainer of Wooll for cloathing. In which respect, my Father about some six and twenty yeares since, when *S. Martin Calthrope* (a Brother of the same Society) was Lord Maior, brought then the like goodly Ramme as his oblation, and bearing that his man *S. Thomas Hays*, and another *Martin*, Master *Martin Lanyer* (by the blessing of Heaven and their owne vertuous endeauours) were the next chosen Brethren of the same Society, the one to succeed in the selfe same dignitie of the Maioratie, and the other of the Shrievalty, haue brought this as my heere offering, in honour of them, shewdearly affection, and in my dutie to them both, with all my utmost force and wit beside. For thus say we in *Cotswold*.

And with this I will be  
his Honour way toward  
to come to the figure of  
the figure of the figure

From the Ramme

we have the Lamb

From both our finest

woolles are shorne

Wool



Wool had this from  
 the Rammes and Lambe,  
 Makes the best Cloth,  
 That can be worne.  
 Thank you the Draper  
 has begun.  
 To make such Cloathing,  
 meet for man.  
 For, if wee haue no Rammes, wee are faine to  
 haue no Lambe: no Lambe, no Woolle: no  
 Woolle, no Cloth: no Cloth, no Draper.  
 Hence wee haue this, my neuer seene new,  
 For we haue this, my neuer seene new,  
 But that of Rammes, Lambe, Woolle, Cloth, Draper,  
 So shall the Draper be rich, and more.  
 And their owne vertuous endeauours were the  
 As the Addition, to guide the man that  
 or to the Shewer because our many were  
 thought inconvenient, we make use of a golden  
 pelted Lyon, a supporter to the Companies  
 Armes, with a Champion mounted on his back,  
 and a golden wolfe Embleme, the Ensigne of  
 Imprese belonging to the Lord Maiors Crest.  
 And with these fewe slender deuises, we vs her  
 his Honors way toward Guilde-Haule; vntill he  
 come to S. Laurence Church, where the figure of  
 S. Henrie Fitz-Alaine, thus fauourably stayeth  
 him.

From both our friends  
and collectors



**I**N times of olde Antiquitie,  
 When men liu'd long and healthfully,  
 Detesting sloth and idlenesse,  
 Which breeds but surfet and excesse.  
 When yea and nay was greatest Oath,  
 And mens best weare, good woollen Cloath,  
 Repled Englands Draperie,  
 More worth then gaudie brauerie,  
 Of Silken twine, Silver and Golde,  
 Nere knownen in those blest daies of olde:  
 Then liu'd that graue and worthie man,  
 That Londons honour first began,  
 By title of the Maioraltie,  
 A high and famous dignity:  
 Henric Fitz-Alwin was his name,  
 Noble by birth, and of much fame,  
 Whose substance though his graue hath kept,  
 Foure hundred yeeres where he hath slept,  
 Yet is his shadowe raise'd in me,  
 To grate this daies solemnitie.  
 For he being first that held the sway  
 Of Maior in London, justly may  
 Challenge (by right priuilegie,  
 In honouring his owne Companie,  
 With all that sacred Poesie can  
 Denise, to grace so good a man,  
 As first with hearts, hands, and free voice,  
 Was thought meet in the peoples choise  
 To ranke in that rich temple of fame:  
 That honoured first the Drapers name.  
 And worthie Brother here suruey

Those



Those fencer all kinds of Londons sway  
 Till royall Richard first in me,  
 Altered the rule to Maioraltye.  
 Portgreues held first by strict command,  
 Next Prouosts with a sterner hand,  
 Such from the Conquest was the case  
 Of Londons awe, till milder grace  
 Made choice of Bayliffes, men thought fit  
 In the Kings iudgement Courts to sit,  
 And right all causes of contention:  
 By vpright censure, or p[re]uention.  
 Yet all this could not please the king,  
 In two mens rule grew varying,  
 By leaning to what part each list[ed],  
 So might by might was still resist[ed].  
 Wrongs vnredress, offences flowing,  
 Garboyles & grudges each where growing.  
 Therefore as God had giuen him place,  
 Solely to rule, and iudge each case,  
 So would he plant a deputie,  
 To figure his authoritie,  
 In the true forme of Monarchie,  
 Then which, no better soueraignie.  
 Which office being imposde on me,  
 By such a gracious Maiestie:  
 I held it foure and twentie yeares,  
 (Rarely elected, as appeares.)  
 Vntill my verie dying day.  
 Since when (my Lord) I can well say,  
 The Science of olde Draperie,  
 (Our louing kind Society)



*Hath yeelded many a Magistrate,  
In the selfe same degree of State.  
And Time reserveth in his store,  
For the like honour, many more.  
On then before, for we must send,  
Till this daies triumph have full end.*

The number  
of 45. Lord  
Maiors,

The solemnitie of so pompous a feast being finished, and his Honor (according to yearelie custome) returning towards *Paules*, with all the former conceits gracefully borne before him: he is mildlie sollicit for a minutes stay by old *Sir John Norman*, who (in this manner) giueth him a reason for it.

*The Speech at the little Conduit in the after-  
noone, at my Lords going to Paules.*

**H** Onorable Lord and Brother, it is imposed on olde *John Norman*, brieflie to describe these two beautifull deuises to yee. In the first, which manifesteth the Honor of Draperie, your well iudging eye may easily conceiue, each person by their apt distinguishment. The Mother, Olde Draperie, with her Daughters and attendants placed about her, doe deliver the *Draper*s true antiquitie, and that which he and his onely performed, is since become the benifit of diuers trades or occupations. Carding, Spinning, Weaving, Fulling, Rowing, Shearing, Dressing, Dying, Tentering, and what

else



else appertained to wollen cloath, was the auncient *Draper's* sole profession, and the chiefe honour of this famous Kingdome: flourishing thereby in so many happy blessings, and so fortified by *Peace, Plenty, Countie, Councell* and *Discrete Zeale*, that all other nations late and admired thereat. You haue a taste of this felicity in that other Deuise, beautified with the chiefe Clothing Cities of this Land, for maintenance of auncient *Draperie*, whereof *London* sitteth the highest aduanced, as being his choyce Chamber that first made a *Draper* the onely Gouvernor thereof. I am loath to hold yee long, and well I wot, more ample relation hath bene made vnto yee; and therefore to God and your good deuotions I heartily commend yee.

Night folding vp bright day in dimme mantles of darkenesse, and those diuine ceremonies ended, which waite as Henchmen on that daies duetie, the Starres seeme to leaue their places in their fixed Spheares, and become as so many bright flaming Torches to grace our worthy Magistrate home, euen to his house, (as it were) in the malice of blacke-fac'd night, and to further the finishing of so solempne a Triumph, which endeth with this humble farewell giuen to his Honor.



The Speech deliuered to the Lord  
Mayor at parting.

**T**He longest daies haue end at last,  
And pleasures pompe is but a blast,  
Now see my Lord that sullen night,  
Sworne enemy to daies delight,  
(For all the pride these Tapers make,)  
Whispers, that we must farewell take.  
To doubt of your ensuing care,  
Or to aduise you, to prepare  
For enuies stormes, or soothing smiles,  
That waite on such high place some whiles:  
Longs not to me. For in your eye  
Such true Characters I espie  
Of vertue, zeale, and upright heed,  
That you will proue the man indeed,  
Meet such a charge to undergoe:  
Whereto heauen's hand hath rais'd you so:  
And that you'll equall any yet  
That in the selfe-same place hath set.  
Such is the hope of all that loue you,  
Amongst whom, I cannot choose but moue you  
With their remembrance, that this day  
Haue done as much as men well may  
In honouring this Solemnity,  
The Drapers worthie Company.  
Their loue and bountie hath exprest,  
How with their fauours you are blest:  
For, as their kindnesse hath not scant:  
So hath no needfull seruice wanted.



*For this daies honour and delight:  
And so my worthie Lord good night.*

Thus the worthy and first honoured Company of *Drapers*, hauing ( in louing and bountifull manner ) declared their kinde affection to as affable a Magistrate; I may not omit onething more, wherein the dutious respect of themselves, and loue to the Citie very manifestly approoued their worth: for, when many solemne meetings haue beene made in the *Guild Hall*, for election of a Sheriffe by common consent, and as many refusalls still hapning day by day, to the great disquiet of the Companies, and mighty delay of time; yet when no one would vndergoe the Office and charge, a *Draper* hath done it, worthily and willingly, though no Aldermans place as then was voyd, witnesse Maister *Benedict Barneham*, a learned and iudicious Gentleman, who chearefully vndertooke the Shrieualty in *Anno 1591*. Next, Maister *Henric Iaye*, but a yeare since, and Maister *Martin Lumley* now Sheriffe of *London*, all of them louing Bretheren of the *Drapers Society*.

To conclude, as the seuerall Inuentions (with all their weakenesses and imperfections) were mine owne: so the worth and credit of their performance (if any may waite on so meane a businesse) belongeth to the exact and skilfull  
Painter



(19)

Painter Maister Rowland Bucket, whose care, diligence, and faithfull dealing I must needs commend, and should wrong him ouermuch if I did not giue him due praise to his merit.

(\* \*)

FINIS.

